United Nations A/67/126/Add.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
28 September 2012

Original: English

Sixty-seventh session
Agenda item 81
Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives

Report of the Secretary-General*

Addendum

1. During the period from 16 May to 28 September 2012, 12 additional reports were received from States pursuant to paragraphs 10 and 12 of General Assembly resolution 65/30. Reports by States contain, inter alia, information on measures they have taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives, as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations on their respective territories. The relevant information concerning those reports is presented below.

I. Reports received from States pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 65/30

2. The **Syrian Arab Republic** (17 May 2012) referred to the series of attacks carried out against the Syrian diplomatic mission in a number of States:

> Opposition groups abroad have exploited the events in Syria to organize non-peaceful demonstrations in front of Syrian diplomatic missions around the world. The premises and property of missions in many countries were attacked and, in several cases, mission buildings were stormed, property ransacked and documents vandalized. The vehicles of many Syrian diplomatic missions have also been attacked. This is in addition to attacks against Syrian diplomats that have occurred

* The present addendum includes contributions received by the Secretary-General after the 15 May 2012 deadline.

Please recycle

in many of the world's capitals and the constant threats being made against diplomatic missions and the diplomats working at those missions. What is more, certain States have refrained, in many cases, from fulfilling their duty to protect Syrian diplomatic missions, in accordance with the 1961 Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations and other relevant provisions of international law.

Syrian Embassy in Cairo

On 4 February 2012, a large group stormed the Embassy building, destroying and stealing all of its property.

General Consulate in Benghazi, Libya

On 12 March 2011, an armed group attacked the Consulate building, surrounded the Consul's residence and fired rounds, destroying offices inside the Consulate.

Syrian Embassy in Vienna

On 26 April 2011, the nameplate on the Embassy's door was vandalized.

On 16 May 2011, the Embassy's exterior windows were broken.

On 4 October 2011, several persons stormed the Embassy building, causing significant material damage.

Syrian Embassy in Brussels

On 6 August 2011, a group of protestors splattered the Embassy building with a large amount of red paint.

On 10 August 2011, unidentified persons splattered the Embassy's wall and windows with red paint.

On 18 October 2011, eight persons splattered the Embassy's walls with red paint.

On 4 January 2012, four persons sprayed red paint on the Embassy's walls and broke its exterior windows.

On 23 January 2012, a group of persons sprayed red paint on the Embassy's walls and broke its exterior windows.

On 9 January 2012, seven persons sprayed red paint on the Embassy's walls.

On 6 February 2012, some 50 persons attacked the Embassy's building and staff.

Syrian Embassy in Rome

On 10 February 2012, a group of persons stormed the Embassy and vandalized its property, despite the presence of guards from the host country.

Syrian Embassy in Berlin

On 1 June 2011, the Embassy was bombarded with paint and rubbish.

On 9 October 2011, the Embassy was attacked, its doors smashed and its property vandalized.

On 3 February 2012, the Embassy was attacked, its doors smashed and its property vandalized.

Syrian Embassy in London

On 4 February 2012, a group of protestors stormed the Embassy building, breaking glass and destroying Embassy property, including chairs, electronic devices, offices and doors.

On 6 August 2011, eggs and red, yellow and black paint were hurled at a Syrian diplomatic vehicle.

On 14 May 2011, a person spray-painted the Embassy building and wrote phrases attacking and insulting the Syrian leadership.

On 4 June 2011, red paint was hurled at the Embassy building and a diplomatic vehicle.

On 8 October 2011, the Embassy building was stormed. The attackers defaced the Embassy entrance with paint and attempted to smash the main door. They also climbed up the building and lowered the flag.

Syrian Embassy in Amman

On 13 October 2011, some 1,000 persons protested in front of the Embassy and chanted insulting slogans. A vehicle belonging to the Amman Electricity Authority supplied electricity for the protestors' audio and lighting equipment.

On 14 November 2011, some 250 persons organized a protest in front of the Embassy and chanted inflammatory slogans. They also attempted to storm the Embassy building and raise the Jordanian flag.

On 11 December 2011, a group of persons claiming to have business to conclude stormed the Embassy building. When Embassy security personnel attempted to remove them, they beat them with instruments that they were carrying with them, causing them to lose consciousness. They then attacked Embassy staff members, including diplomats. Jordanian security arrested some of the attackers, while others managed to flee.

Syrian Embassy in Algiers

On 4 February 2012, a group of persons attacked the Embassy building and assaulted the information desk worker and the Algerian police officer charged with guarding the Embassy. The group then tore down the outer metal gate, with a view to reaching the Ambassador's office. The information desk worker and the police officer clashed with them until Algerian police and security vehicles arrived. Once they had been removed from the building, some of them gathered outside the Embassy while others went around to the back wall and once again attacked the information desk worker and bound him. They also raised the flag of the so-called revolution and recorded the event.

Syrian Embassy in Kuwait City

On 9 August 2011, a group of representatives from the National Assembly protested in front of the Embassy. As they were protesting, one of the representatives announced that religious leaders had issued a fatwa sanctioning the killing of the Syrian Ambassador. The Kuwaiti authorities took the measures required to ensure the Embassy's safety.

On 4 February 2012, the Syrian Embassy and Ambassador's residence were attacked. The attackers stormed the Ambassador's office and destroyed its contents and then attempted to storm other Embassy offices. The attack caused extensive material damage.

Syrian Embassy in Athens

On 4 February 2012, some 60 persons stormed the Embassy building and lowered the Syrian flag. The Greek police intervened and arrested several attackers. The police also conducted an investigation into the incident.

Syrian Embassy in Canberra

On 4 February 2012, some 50 persons stormed the Embassy building, destroying the main doors and windows. The attackers were able to enter the office of the Head of the Mission, stealing his computer and wallet, and the offices of local staff. The Australian police conducted an investigation into the incident.

Syrian Consulate General in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

On 14 August 2011, Syrian nationals stormed the Consulate's reception area and beat Consulate personnel while directing insulting phrases and profanities at the Syrian State. Members of the Saudi security service were summoned and they arrested the attackers.

Syrian Embassy in Manama

On 15 December 2011, the Embassy wall was defaced and inflammatory remarks written on it.

On 4 February 2012, some 50 Bahrainis, led by a Salafist member of Parliament, gathered and stoned the Embassy building and directed profanities at the Syrian leadership. Another group stormed the Embassy walls and set fire to the building.

Syrian Embassy in Bucharest

On 25 February 2012, a group of persons that was attempting to storm the Embassy building succeeded in bringing down the flagpole that was flying the Syrian flag.

Syrian Embassy in Warsaw

On 14 October 2011, a group of persons vandalized the nameplate mounted on the Embassy's outer wall that bears the name of the Embassy and the seal of the State by covering it in paint. They also scrawled insulting slogans on the wall.

On 5 February 2012, the Embassy wall was stormed and the national flag lowered. Insulting slogans were scrawled on the Embassy's outer wall.

Syrian Embassy in Madrid

On 3 October 2011, a group of persons affixed opposition leaflets to the entrance of the Ambassador's residence and to diplomatic vehicles belonging to the Mission.

On 4 February 2012, some 15 persons stormed the Embassy building.

Syrian Embassy in Jakarta

On 23 November 2011, an unidentified person attempted to storm the Embassy and break the locks on its doors.

Syrian Embassy in Kuala Lumpur

On 15 August 2011, the Embassy's outer wall was defaced and insulting phrases written on it.

On 4 February 2012, a group of protestors attempting to storm the Embassy building were stopped by the police force.

Syrian Embassy in Ankara

On 2 August 2011, some 30 persons from the Confederation of Public Workers' Unions protested in front of the Embassy and read out a statement to the media. The Turkish Foreign Ministry had informed the Embassy of the protest beforehand. On that same day, the building housing the Consulate General in Istanbul was stormed, as were the offices of Syrian Arab Airlines.

Syrian Embassy in Prague

On 10 July 2011, the exterior of the Embassy was splattered with paint.

On 9 October 2011, a group of protestors threw stones at the exterior of the Embassy.

Syrian Embassy in Paris

On 8 October 2011, some 10 protestors gathered in front of the Embassy building and chanted hostile slogans and hurled rubbish at the Embassy building. French security forces intervened, arresting two of the attackers.

On 23 November 2011, some 20 persons gathered in front of the Embassy building and chanted hostile slogans and hurled rubbish at the Embassy building. French security forces intervened and questioned some of the attackers.

On 4 February 2012, some 300 persons carrying iron bars who were attempting to storm the Embassy proceeded to surround the building. At the same time, attacks were being carried out against the Consular Section, which is located in the Syrian Cultural Centre in Paris, and the offices of Syrian Arab Airlines.

Syrian Embassy in Stockholm

On 4 February 2012, some 15 persons attempted to storm the Embassy building. They were repulsed by Swedish police. On that night, the national flag that flew above the Embassy was replaced with the flag of the so-called revolution.

Syrian Embassy in Tunis

On 4 February 2012, some 40 persons protested in front of the Embassy building. They attempted to bring down the Syrian flag and wrote insulting phrases on the Embassy's outer wall.

Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations in New York

On 14 February 2012, a group of persons protesting in front of the Permanent Mission followed the Permanent Representative as he headed to the United Nations, directing insults at him. United States authorities were informed of the incident and have promised to investigate.

3. **Switzerland** (22 May 2012) reported, inter alia, the following:

Switzerland takes very seriously its duty to protect and provide security for missions and international organizations. The overall situation in Switzerland can be considered safe, despite an increase in property violations. Such violations have also affected the property of permanent missions and international organizations and members of their staff. Cases of assault causing bodily harm remain very rare. In all cases, the police and the public prosecutor have taken appropriate action on incidents that have been reported to them.

4. **Chile** (4 June 2012) submitted a table showing serious violations of the security of Chilean missions abroad and the measures taken by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile in response to those violations:

Serious violations of the safety and security of Chilean missions abroad

Description of the offence	*Security support measures taken by the host country*	*Measures taken by Chile's Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
1. **Embassy of Chile in Mexico** Since 2010, the Embassy has been the target of: • Letter bombs • Telephone threats • Anonymous threats	• An anti-establishment group, Núcleo insurrecto Sole-Baleno de las Células Autónomas de Revolución Inmediata-Praxedis G. Guerrero, claimed responsibility for the letter bombs. The investigation was conducted by the Special Unit for the Investigation of Terrorism and Arms Stockpiling and Trafficking in the Office of the Deputy Attorney General for Special Investigations into Organized Crime, which operates under the Office of the Attorney General	• The Embassy is equipped with such preventive security technology as closed-circuit television, theft alarms, fire alarms, access control and security doors • Documents are inspected using Garrett metal detectors and related inspection procedures

Description of the offence	*Security support measures taken by the host country*	*Measures taken by Chile's Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
	• The local police provides an escort for the Ambassador • The police is in ongoing coordination with the Embassy • The local police and Chile's expert body have trained Embassy officials to inspect and handle mail	
2. **Embassy of Chile in Italy** On 23 December 2010, local official César Mella was the victim of a letter bomb attack, sustaining injuries	• The anarchist group Federazione Anarchica Informale claimed responsibility for the attack, which the Italian police reported to the competent court • The Embassy receives police protection during emergencies • The Embassy is in ongoing contact with the local police	• The Embassy is equipped with such preventive security technology as closed-circuit television, theft alarms, fire alarms and access control • Documents are inspected using Garrett metal detectors and related inspection procedures
3. **Embassy of Chile in Greece** In 2010-2011, the Embassy received letter and package bombs	• The local police is investigating the case and has attributed the attack to the anarchist group Conspiración de Núcleos de Fuego, which is active in Europe • The Embassy is in ongoing contact with the local police	• The Embassy is equipped with such preventive security technology as closed-circuit television, theft alarms, fire alarms, access control and security doors • Documents are inspected using Garrett metal detectors and related inspection procedures
4. **Embassy of Chile in France** Since 2010, the Embassy has been the target of: • Telephone threats • Anonymous threats • Defacement of exterior walls	• The attacks were reported to the local police • The Embassy and the Consulate General are in ongoing contact with the local police • The local police provides a security detail when peaceful demonstrations are scheduled	• The Embassy is equipped with such preventive security technology as closed-circuit television, access control and security doors • Documents are inspected using Garrett metal detectors and related inspection procedures

Description of the offence	*Security support measures taken by the host country*	*Measures taken by Chile's Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
5. **Embassy of Chile in Argentina** On 1 September 2011, a group of some 250 persons staged a violent demonstration in front of the Embassy. They fired pellets, broke windows and threw bags filled with paint	• The attacks were reported to the Argentine Federal Police • The Embassy is in ongoing contact with the local police • The local police provides a security detail when peaceful demonstrations are scheduled	• The Embassy is equipped with such preventive security technology as closed-circuit television, theft alarms, fire alarms, access control and security doors • Documents are inspected using Garrett metal detectors and related inspection procedures

In response to the string of attacks described above, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Chile put in place a document inspection procedure that entails the use of a ferrous metal detector. In order to implement this measure, the Ministry acquired 200 Garrett metal detectors and a meticulous document inspection protocol, translated into English, French, German and Spanish, and supplied them to:

- 67 embassies
- 50 consulates-general
- 10 career consulates
- 5 consular sections
- 4 consulates
- 5 missions to international organizations
- 50 honorary consulates

It should be noted that this preventive measure has led to the detection of letter bombs sent to the Embassies in Greece, Mexico and Spain, among others, and to their subsequent deactivation by local police forces.

It should also be noted that, in 2010, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, having foreseen this risk, introduced security systems with the features described below as the technical standard for preventive security at all Chilean diplomatic, consular and other missions abroad. These systems have the capacity to monitor premises through the General Packet Radio Service communication system, which transmits an activation signal directly to the cellular telephone of the mission's chief security officer, who can then investigate the cause of the activation. The features include:

- Closed-circuit television equipped with a digital video recorder, infrared cameras and display screens. The system can store images for up to 30 days and has 30 minutes of reserve power.
- Electronic access control and security door. This feature prevents unauthorized access to the offices. The system is connected to the fire alarm system so that the doors can open while the alarm is activated. It also has reserve power that allows it to run without a direct electrical supply for 24 hours.
- A fire alarm system, supplemented by fire extinguishers.

5. **Italy** (28 June 2012) referred to the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic on 17 May 2012 (see para. 2 above) and further reported as follows:

On 10 February 2012, the Syrian Embassy in Rome reported to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs that unknown intruders had entered its offices. On the same day, the police headquarters of Rome, which had been immediately informed of the case by the Ministry's Protocol Office, reported that, during the night a dozen persons of Syrian nationality had entered the Embassy by a ladder, caused damages to the offices, and had hung from a window a banner of protest against the Syrian Arab Republic. The police immediately stepped up vigilance to protect diplomatic/consular targets, national airlines and tourist boards and the sociocultural, economic, trade and religious interests of the Syrian Arab Republic, as well as individuals and other vulnerable targets, to prevent further illegal acts.

Surveillance of the diplomatic offices and ambassador's residence was immediately reinforced by adding two Carabinieri officers and a state police squad car, in addition to the two Italian army soldiers already stationed there 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

All of this was promptly communicated to the Syrian Embassy in Rome.

Following the 10 February episode, the Italian security authorities adopted every measure considered appropriate to prevent further incidents against the Syrian Embassy and to promptly advise the Syrian Embassy of any known protests planned outside its offices (there have been 10 protests from 10 February to date), while at the same time providing the proper security measures.

Should there be further developments in the investigations, particularly regarding the identification and sanctioning of the perpetrators of the 10 February infractions, an updated report will be provided.

6. **Germany** (6 July 2012) referred to the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic on 17 May 2012 (see para. 2 above) and further reported as follows:

Following the soiling of the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic with red paint during the night of 31 May to 1 June 2011, preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for criminal damage to property. In addition, the frequency of mobile police patrols in front of the Embassy premises was increased.

Following the storming of the Syrian Embassy in the late evening of 31 May 2011, during which several individuals broke through the Embassy premises' entry gate, entered the Embassy building, destroyed photos and stole a Syrian flag (which was retrieved by the police and returned to the Ambassador the next day), permanent property protection by the police was ordered and a perimeter fence placed on the street. Preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for infringements of the law concerning assemblies and processions, disturbance of the public peace, and violation of flags and symbols of foreign States.

Following the storming of the Syrian Embassy on 3 February 2012, during which approximately 50 individuals climbed the Embassy fence, broke a back door of the Embassy building and damaged the Embassy interior, the police quickly removed the individuals from the premises and established their identities. Preliminary proceedings were initiated by the public prosecution office for

infringements of the law concerning assemblies and processions, disturbance of the public peace, and criminal damage to property.

The Federal Foreign Office has expressed to the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic its sincere regrets for the incidents and has ex gratia offered to cover the costs to repair the damage.

In order to prevent further attempts by demonstrators to enter premises of the Syrian Embassy, the Embassy was encouraged to increase the height of the Embassy fence, which is currently only approximately 1 metre high.

7. **Austria** (9 July 2012) referred to the report submitted by it on 13 May 2011 (see A/67/126, para. 11), and further reported as follows:

As regards the incident on 21 May 2010 concerning the International Charity Bazaar of the Diplomatic Ladies Group at the Austrian Ambassador's residence in Tehran, reported in a note verbale dated 13 May 2011, and in particular the unauthorized presence of police personnel on the premises of the residence, to date, despite several requests, Austria has not been informed by the Iranian authorities about the outcome of the investigations of the incident.

On 26 July 2011, members of the Iranian diplomatic police took photographs of female guests at an event taking place at the Austrian Embassy in Tehran, noted their personal data and urged and/or forced them not to participate in the event.

During an event at the residence of the Austrian Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran on 29 September 2011, the licence plates of approximately 20 guests parked in front of the residence were removed by non-uniformed policemen. Uniformed members of the diplomatic police present did not intervene. In order to get the licence plates back, their owners had to present themselves at police stations, where they were reproached for participating in the event and were urged, and in some cases had to commit themselves in writing, not to participate in future events organized by foreign diplomatic missions.

On 7 October 2011, in the course of a spontaneous midnight demonstration, a couple of persons forcefully opened the door to the premises of the consular section of the Syrian Embassy in Vienna. They entered the premises and caused damage to furniture and office equipment. The police was on the spot in less than five minutes, and several intruders were identified and indicted. One of them was sentenced to three months' arrest on probation by an Austrian court. The total damage amounted to 5,254.40 euros. Austria offered an ex gratia payment, which was declined by the Syrian Embassy, and reinforced police vigilance of the premises of the Mission.

8. **Cuba** (13 July 2012) reported, inter alia, the following:

Key results achieved by the Multiple Response System for the Security and Protection of the Diplomatic Corps are:

- Zero occurrences of violent intrusions into diplomatic offices. Break-ins have been isolated events committed by individuals, rather than by organized groups
- Decrease in the number of criminal acts
- Decrease in the number of complaints in notes verbales issued by diplomatic offices

- Zero occurrences of violent acts
- Zero occurrences of violent personal assaults
- Documented acts were of minor impact or a low-level threat and occurred in public thoroughfares, recreational areas, parking lots and streets where the usual protection is not provided; their causes and circumstances were mostly attributable to the diplomatic personnel themselves
- Increase in follow-up and monitoring of the investigations of offences committed against the diplomatic corps

9. **Greece** (19 July 2012) referred to the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic on 17 May 2012 (see para. 2 above) and further reported as follows:

On 4 February 2012 afternoon, approximately 70 persons gathered in front of the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Athens and half of them stormed the Embassy building and lowered the Syrian flag. Greek police intervened immediately and arrested 12 individuals, against whom legal proceedings were initiated. Further, increased security measures were taken to guard the Embassy building. Police authorities have responded to subsequent requests of the Embassy for additional security measures.

10. **Greece** (23 July 2012) referred to the report submitted by Chile on 4 June 2012 (see para. 4 above) and further reported as follows:

On 1 November 2010, the Embassy of Chile in Athens received a parcel containing an explosive device. Greek authorities were immediately mobilized and successfully handled the situation. On 3 November 2012, the Embassy of Chile expressed, by note verbale, its appreciation to the Foreign Ministry of Greece for the pertinent advice and requested additional security measures, which were provided by the Greek police.

On 3 November 2010, the Foreign Ministry of Greece reissued a circular to all diplomatic missions and regional offices of international organizations with advice on how to identify suspicious mail and parcels and, on 10 November, held a specialized briefing on the issue.

11. **Belgium** (21 August 2012) referred to the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic on 17 May 2012 (see para. 2 above) and further reported as follows:

The Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Brussels has indeed been targeted by several acts of vandalism and a break-in that resulted in damage outside and inside the building.

The incidents reported to the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs by the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic are being investigated and followed up. In addition, the Belgian authorities have put in place proactive security measures.

Meetings on the protection of the Syrian Embassy have been organized with the participation of all of the authorities responsible for security in Belgium. The Threat Assessment Coordination Body is often requested to assess the threat level to the Syrian Embassy and tailor the various protective security measures accordingly.

The investigation into the graffiti, along with a substantial police deployment, led to the arrest of perpetrators who were caught in the act. The case is pending before the Belgian courts.

The swift response of the police officers who were called to the scene when the Embassy was broken into and ransacked led to the detention of several individuals who were caught in the act. A criminal investigation is under way.

The Belgian authorities are currently examining the options with regard to compensation for the costs incurred as a result of the damage.

Since the break-in and damage to the outside and inside of the building, the Syrian Embassy has been kept under constant surveillance by a permanent police presence. The Belgian authorities deploy additional capacity when demonstrations take place in front of the Embassy. The residence of the Ambassador of the Syrian Arab Republic is now under increased protection and is frequently patrolled by police.

The Belgian security and justice authorities are following up the issue, giving it all of the necessary attention.

12. **Poland** (27 August 2012) referred to the report submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic on 17 May 2012 (see para. 2 above) and further reported as follows:

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations has the honour to provide information about the pending criminal proceedings relating to the incidents on 14 October 2011 and 5 February 2012 regarding the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Warsaw.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations has the further honour to inform the Secretary-General that the permanent police stations of the Protection of Diplomatic Missions Unit of the Metropolitan Police have been established in order to minimize future occurrence of similar incidents against the Embassy of the Syrian Arab Republic in Warsaw and the residence of the Ambassador.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations will report to the Secretary-General the final outcome of any proceedings brought against the offenders.

II. Views expressed by States pursuant to paragraph 12 of General Assembly resolution 65/30

13. **Switzerland** (22 May 2012), **Cuba** (13 July 2012) and **Turkey** (23 July 2012) reported on the measures taken to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives as well as missions and representatives with diplomatic status to international intergovernmental organizations on their respective territories.[1]

[1] For the full texts of the replies see the website of the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly (www.un.org/ga/sixth), sixty-seventh session: "Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives".